



**Technology Acceptable Use Policy**

**Student Guidelines**

Please read this document carefully before signing.

The Charleston County School District provides Internet access to students and teachers at more of its campuses every year. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. We believe the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers.

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. Students and staff will have access to:

- 1) electronic mail (e-mail) communication;
- 2) information and news as well as a variety of research institutions;
- 3) public domain software and shareware of all types; and
- 4) access to many University Library Catalogs, the Library of Congress, and ERIC – a large collection of information relevant to educators and students.

With access to computers and people world wide comes the availability of material that may not have educational value in the context of the school setting. On a global network, however, it is impossible to control all materials and limit all access to information which has no educational value. CCSD firmly believes that the valuable resources and interaction available on this network far outweigh the possibility that some users may procure material that is inconsistent with the educational goals of the District.

The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided as a part of this document so that users are aware of their responsibilities when accessing the Internet. Any violations of these guidelines will subject the user to appropriate disciplinary action and possible denial of access to the Internet.

**Note: See terms and conditions on the following page.**

ADOPTED: February 23,1998

REVISION HISTORY:

OTHER REF:



### Internet – Terms and Conditions of Use

1. **Define a Purpose for Internet Use:** All use of the Internet during school hours must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the school district. Users must have a well-defined, documented reason for accessing the Internet. No "surfing" is allowed. "Surfing" is the term for unstructured searches, or just exploring to see what is out there. Students must have a topic, or subject, to be researched; and it must be directly related to a given assignment from one or more teachers. There should be adult supervision while any student is researching on the Internet.
2. **Maintain Network Etiquette** (sometimes called "Netiquette"):
  - Be polite. Do not send abusive or threatening messages to others.
  - Do not swear or use vulgarities or other inappropriate language.
  - Do not send credit card numbers, bank account numbers, social security numbers, personal addresses, or personal phone numbers across the Internet.
  - The Internet is not a secure or private means of communication; you never really know who else may be "listening in." People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to, or in support of, illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
  - Do not disrupt network communications. Disruptions would include downloading large files, sending mass e-mail messages, transmitting virus routines, or annoying other users.
  - All information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property of the person presenting the material.
3. **Acceptable Use:** The purpose of NSFNET (National Science Foundation NETwork), which is the backbone network to the Internet, is to support research and education in and among academic institutions of the U.S. by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work.
4. **Privileges:** The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in the cancellation of the privilege. (Before students log on to the Internet, they will be part of a discussion with a CCSD teacher pertaining to the proper use of the network.) Any misuse of the Internet will result in disciplinary action by an administrator in the school/district.
5. **Security:** Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If a user feels he can identify a security problem on the Internet, he must notify a system administrator or the District Internet Coordinator. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. **Attempts to log on to the network as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges.** Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the Internet.
6. **Denying Access:** If a parent or guardian is uncomfortable with the option of his or her child(ren) accessing the Internet, the student(s) may be assigned to a different activity when classmates are using the Internet. That decision may be indicated in the parent signature part of the Student Technology Use Agreement: the student(s) will then be assigned an alternate activity.
7. **Disclaimer:** Charleston County School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. Charleston County School District will not be responsible for any damages suffered while using the Internet. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, nondeliveries, misdeliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. Charleston County School District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

**Charleston County School District  
Student Technology Use Agreement**

I have read and understand the rules and requirements for accessing information on the Internet. I agree to abide by the rules and I further understand that any violation of the rules is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked for the remainder of the year. School disciplinary and /or appropriate legal action may be taken.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature**

**Date**

**Sponsoring Teacher Agreement**

I have read the District’s Acceptable Use Policy and will promote this agreement with the student named above. As the sponsoring teacher, I agree to instruct the student on acceptable use of the network and proper network etiquette.

Sponsoring Teacher’s Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsoring Teacher’s Signature**

**Date**

**Parent/Guardian Permission**

As the parent or guardian of the student, I have read the Technology Acceptable Use Policy. I understand this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for the schools to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network.

I understand that I may be contacted at the phone number listed below to verify my permission. If I have questions regarding topics my child is researching or how my child is using the Internet, I will contact his or her teacher. I hereby give permission to have my child access information on the Internet. In addition, I have read and understand the consequences if my child attempts to log on to the school or District network as a systems administrator.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number and Time to Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number

Time I can be reached at this number

Yes, my child has permission to access the Internet.

No, my child does not have permission to access the Internet.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature**

**Date**